

## The Collector John Fowles

**Here, for the first time, is a riveting collection of Fowles's fugitive and intensely personal writings composed since 1963, ranging from essays and literary criticism to commentaries, autobiographical statements, memoirs and musings. Wormholes is a delicious sampling of the various matters that have plagued, preoccupied, or delighted Fowles throughout his life; it is a rich mine of essays as art and a geography of the mind of one of the twentieth century's greatest novelists.**

**Journal and diary excerpts range from the author's student days at Oxford in the late 1940s and chronicle such experiences as teaching on the Greek island of Spetsai and his love affair with the married woman who would become his wife.**

**John Fowles had gained great popularity as a contemporary novelist on both sides of the Atlantic. In this comprehensive study of his work, originally published in 1982, Peter Conradi relates his work to his life, his ideas and his place in contemporary English fiction at the time. Conradi sees him as both realist and experimental, and in detailed analyses of *The Magus* and *The French Lieutenant's Woman* illuminates Fowles's use of literary genres – the romance (in particular), the detective story, the thriller, the Victorian novel, the tale of courtly love – to exploit and explode the conventions of that particular genre. Seduction, erotic quest, capture and betrayal are among the most important themes in Fowles's work to be considered here.**

**The Ebony Tower, comprising a novella, three stories, and a translation of a medieval French tale, echoes themes from John Fowles's internationally celebrated novels as it probes the fitful relations between love and hate, pleasure and pain, fantasy and reality.**

**Essays and Occasional Writings**

**After the Fire, A Still Small Voice**

**Comes the Blind Fury**

**Wormholes**

**Red Dress in Black and White**

From the multi-award-winning and bestselling author of *The Night Watch* and *Fingersmith* comes an astonishing novel about love, loss, and the sometimes unbearable weight of the past. In a dusty post-war summer in rural Warwickshire, a doctor is called to see a patient at Lonely Hundreds Hall. Home to the Ayres family for over two centuries, the once grand house is now in decline, its masonry crumbling, its garden choked with weeds. All around, the world is changing, and the family is struggling to adjust to a society with new values and rules. Roddie Ayres, who returned from World War II physically and emotionally wounded, is desperate to keep the house and what remains of the estate together for the sake of his mother and his sister, Caroline. Mrs. Ayres is doing her best to hold on to the gracious habits of a gentler era and Caroline seems cheerfully prepared to continue doing the work a team of servants once handled, even if it means having little chance for a life of her own beyond Hundreds. But as Dr. Faraday becomes increasingly entwined in the Ayreses' lives, signs of a more disturbing nature start to emerge, both within the family and in Hundreds Hall itself. And Faraday begins to wonder if they are all threatened by something more sinister than a dying way of life, something that could subsume them completely. Both a nuanced evocation of 1940s England and the most chilling-uncle novel of psychological suspense in years, *The Little Stranger* confirms Sarah Waters as one of the finest and most exciting novelists writing today.

This finely crafted art portfolio includes twenty-two black & white illustrations and two color illustrations by David Palladini. The artwork originally appeared in the trade edition of *The Eyes of the Dragon* by Stephen King. This edition includes an exclusive afterword by David Palladini which is letterpress printed. The numbered edition is limited to three hundred copies and measures 10" x 15.5". The text and illustrations are printed on ultra-premium archival paper and are housed in a clamshell box of European linen book cloth over archival boards. The edition includes a previously unpublished illustration as well as a reproduction of the only extant copy of the original title page illustration hand-colored by David Palladini. The portfolio is signed by artist David Palladini.

The *Sea Around Us* reveals the science and poetry of the sea while ranging from its primeval beginnings to the latest scientific probings. Often described as poetic, it is Carsons second published book and the one that launched her into the public eye and a second career as a writer and conservationist. The book was awarded both the 1952 National Book Award for Nonfiction and a Burroughs Medal in nature writing.

Although best known for his novels *The Collector*, *The Magus*, and *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, John Fowles is also a short story writer, a poet, a respected translator, and a prolific essayist. In his long literary career, he has managed the feats of welding stunning innovation to tradition, pushing the formal boundaries of literary fiction, and still capturing critical acclaim, popular success, and a worldwide readership. In *Conversations* with John Fowles, the first book of interviews devoted to the English writer, Dianne L. Vipond gathers over twenty of the most revealing interviews Fowles has granted in the last forty years. With critics, scholars, and journalists, he discusses his life, his art, his distinctive world view, and his special relationship with nature. Throughout his interviews, Fowles's remarkable consistency of thought is illuminated as he covers the meaning and genesis of his work. His uncompromising honesty and refreshing lack of guardedness are evident when he compares the naturalness of writing with eating or making love. From the 1960s through the 1990s, this master chronicler of the late half of the twentieth century reveals his serious engagement with social, political, and philosophical issues. He identifies himself with feminism, socialism, humanism, and the environmental movement, and he explores his recurring theme of personal, artistic, and socio-political freedom. His books, he says, "are about the difficulty of attaining personal freedom, especially in terms of discovering what one is." Any reader who has been intrigued, challenged, and entertained by his work in the past is sure to find these conversations spanning the writer's career to be stimulating and revealing. Dianne L. Vipond is a professor of English at California State University, Long Beach. A co-editor of the book *Literacy, Language, and Power*, she has published articles in *English Journal*, *Short Story*, *Twentieth Century Literature*, and the *Los Angeles Times*.

*Beneath the Rising*

*Mantissa*

*A Play*

*The Journals*

*When She Was Good*

**Drama / Characters: 1 male, 1 female** Scenery: Interior John Fowles's classic story of possession, obsession and love is considered one of the great works in modern literature. Frederick Clegg appears to be an ordinary, slightly shabby clerk. Winning a fortune in the lottery he buys a remote country house, and goes about furnishing it with everything he thinks a beautiful woman could desire. He then abducts a girl he has worshiped from afar, imprisoning her in the cellar amid his butterfly collection with tragic, electrifying results.

The *Magus* is the story of Nicholas Urfe, a young Englishman who accepts a teaching assignment on a remote Greek island. There his friendship with a local millionaire evolves into a deadly game, one in which reality and fantasy are deliberately manipulated, and Nicholas must fight for his sanity and his very survival.

As a child, Luke's mother often tells him the story of the Dumb House, an experiment on newborn babies raised in silence, designed to test the innateness of language. As Luke grows up, his interest in language and the delicate balance of life and death leads to amateur dissections of small animals - tiny hearts revealed still pumping, as life trickles away. But as an adult, following the death of his mother, Luke's obsession deepens, resulting in a haunting and bizarre experiment on Luke's own children.

In this funny and chilling novel, the setting is a small town in the 1940s Midwest, and the subject is the heart of a wounded and ferociously moralistic young woman, one of those implacable American moralists whose "goodness" is a terrible disease. When she was still a child, Lucy Nelson had her alcoholic failure of a father thrown in jail. Ever since then she has been trying to reform the men around her, even if that ultimately means destroying herself in the process. With his unerring portraits of Lucy and her hapless, childlike husband, Roy, Roth has created an uncompromising work of fictional realism, a vision of provincial American piety, yearning, and discontent that is at once pitiless and compassionate.

*The Collector* - based on the novel by John Fowles

*Tell Me Everything*

*The Aristos*

*Numbered Edition*

*The Snack Thief*

In the spring of 1736 four men and one woman, all traveling under assumed names, are crossing the Devonshire countryside en route to a mysterious rendezvous. Before their journey ends, one of them will be hanged, one will vanish, and the others will face a murder trial. Out of the truths and lies that envelop these events, John Fowles has created a novel that is at once a tale of erotic obsession, an exploration of the conflict between reason and superstition, an astonishing act of literary legerdemain, and the story of the birth of a new faith.

In *Mantissa* (1982), a novelist awakes in the hospital with amnesia -- and comes to believe that a beautiful female doctor is, in fact, his muse.

"This is a Borzoi book published by Alfred A. Knopf"--Title page verso.

Life seems idyllic for Sara - until people in the town start turning up murdered in the most brutal fashions. As the body count rises, Sara doesn't know who to turn to, for it seems that her lover Liam's demons of superstition have become a little too real for comfort.

*The Fictions of John Fowles*

*A Novel*

*The Sea Around Us*

*A Maggot*

*Saturday*

**This vibrant collection of original essays sheds new light on all of Fowles' writings, with a special focus on *The French Lieutenant's Woman* as the most widely studied of Fowles' works. The impressive cast of contributors offers an outstanding range of expertise on Fowles, providing fresh reassessments and new perspectives. The Death of Her is a haunting psychological thriller from Debbie Howells, author of the bestselling *Richard and Judy Book Club* success *The Bones of You*. A woman's body is discovered on a Cornish farm, battered and left for dead in a maize field. Airlifted to hospital, her life hanging in the balance, no one's sure who she is. Three days later she comes round, but her memory is damaged. She knows her name - Evie - but no more, until she remembers another name. Angel - her three-year-old daughter. As the police circulate Evie's photo, someone recognizes her. Charlotte knew her years ago, at school, when another child went missing. Leah Danning, who vanished whilst in Evie's care. When the police search Evie's home, there's no sign of Angel. More disturbingly, there's no evidence that she ever lived there, forcing the police to question whether Evie's having some kind of breakdown. But even from the darkest place she's ever known, Evie believes her daughter is alive. The police remain unconvinced - unaware that on the fringes of Evie's life, there's someone else. Someone hidden, watching her every move, with their own agenda and their own twisted version of reality. **PRAISE FOR THE BONES OF YOU** 'A dazzling debut . . . Haunting, compelling' *Daily Mail***

"A superb novel...Evil has seldom been so sinister." --*Time* Hailed as the first modern psychological thriller, *The Collector* is the internationally bestselling novel that catapulted John Fowles into the front rank of contemporary novelists. This tale of obsessive love--the story of a lonely clerk who collects butterflies and of the beautiful young art student who is his ultimate quarry--remains unparalleled in its power to startle and mesmerize. "A bravura first novel...As a horror story, this book is a remarkable tour de force." --*New Yorker*

Withdrawn, uneducated and unloved, Frederick collects butterflies and takes photographs. A chance pool win enables him to capture the art student Miranda and keep her in the cellar of the Sussex house he has bought with the windfall. The situation is seen first from the collectors point of view: he thinks the chloroform pad no more vicious than his butterfly net, and patiently waits for the barriers of class and taste that inhibit their love to break down in the limbo of their isolation. She, the creator, desperate for her freedom, tries to be understanding but cannot banish her contempt for everything anti-life that the collector stands for.

*Conversations with John Fowles*

*Wizard Study Guide The Collector*

*Daniel Martin*

*Superstitious*

*The Dumb House*

**John Fowles' 1963 novel, *The Collector*, evolve from three sources, two of which are well known: his attendance at a performance of Béla Bartók's opera, *Duke Bluebeard's Castle* and his own teenage captivity fantasies. The mystery of the third source can now be resolved, and its identity is detailed in this essay.**

*The Collector Back to Back*

**Social media meets Amelie in this perfect romantic comedy from First Draft podcast creator and YA lit rising star Sarah Eini.**

**Frank and Leon are two men from different times, discovering that sometimes all you learn from your parents' mistakes is how to make different ones of your own. Frank is trying to escape his troubled past by running away to his family's beach shack. As he struggles to make friends with his neighbors and their precocious young daughter, Sal, he discovers the community has fresh wounds of its own. A girl is missing, and when Sal too disappears, suspicion falls on Frank. Decades earlier, Leon tries to hold together his family's cake shop as their suburban life crumbles in the aftermath of the Korean War. When war breaks out again, Leon must go from sculpting sugar figurines to killing young men as a conscript in the Vietnam War.**

*A Self-portrait in Ideas*

*Kidnapping the Real*

*The Ghost Writer*

*The Death of Her*

*The Magus*

A young writer in search of a spiritual father, Nathan Zuckerman views E. I. Lonoff, who lives with his wife and his student-mistress in rural Massachusetts, as an embodiment of the ideal of artistic integrity and independence

Reveals the reactions of an independent mind to different life situations.

"The novels of Andrea Camilleri breathe out the sense of place, the sense of humor, and the sense of despair that fills the air of Sicily." —Donna Leon When an elderly man is stabbed to death in an elevator and a crewman on an Italian fishing trawler is machine-gunned by a Tunisian patrol boat off Sicily's coast, only Montalbano, with his keen insight into human nature, suspects the link between the two incidents. His investigation leads to the beautiful Karima, an impoverished housecleaner and sometime prostitute, whose young son steals other schoolchildren's midmorning snacks. But Karima disappears, and the young snack thief's life—as well as Montalbano's—is endangered, the Inspector exposes a viper's nest of government corruption and international intrigue.

This incisive and skillfully articulated study explores the complex power relationships in John Fowles's fictions, particularly his handling of the pivotal subjects of art and sex. Chapters on *The Collector*, *The Magus*, *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, and *The Ebony Tower* are included, and a final chapter discusses Daniel Martin, *Mantissa*, and *A Maggot*.

*Journals: 1946-1990*

*Volume 1: 1949-1965*

*John Fowles' The Collector*

*The Ebony Tower*

*The Eyes of the Dragon Art Portfolio*

John Fowles gained international recognition in 1963 with his first published novel, *The Collector*, but his labor on what may be his greatest literary undertaking, his journals, commenced over a decade earlier. Fowles, whose works include *The Maggot*, *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, and *The Ebony Tower*, is among the most inventive and influential English novelists of the twentieth century. The first volume begins in 1949 with Fowles' final year at Oxford. It reveals his intellectual maturation, chronicling his experiences as a university lecturer in France and as a schoolteacher on the Greek island of Spetsai. Simultaneously candid and eloquent, Fowles' journals also expose the deep connection between his personal and scholarly lives as Fowles struggled to win literary acclaim. From his affair with Elizabeth, the married woman who would become his first wife, to his passion for film, ornithology, travel, and book collecting, the journals present a portrait of a man eager to experience life. The second and final volume opens in 1966, as Fowles, already an international success, navigates his newfound fame and wealth. With absolute honesty, his journals map his inner turmoil over his growing celebrity and his hesitance to take on the role of a public figure. Fowles recounts his move from London to a secluded house on England's Dorset coast, where discontented with society's voracious materialism he led an increasingly isolated life. Great works in their own right, Fowles' journals elucidate the private thoughts that gave rise to some of the greatest writing of our time.

Study guide to John Fowles' novel *The Collector*', one of the texts which may be studied for the VCE English course. Part of the *Twizard Study Guide*' series and written by an experienced specialist currently teaching senior English. Each title in the series includes a profile of the author, and explanation of genre and structure, a chapter-by-chapter synopsis and commentary, and discussion of themes and issues. The guides also include a review of the response of critics, advice on how to approach the exam, examples of topic analysis and planning and a sample of a literary essay response and a creative response.

HOPE HAS A PRICE Nick Prasad has always enjoyed a quiet life in the shadow of his best friend, child prodigy and technological genius Joanna 'Johnny' Chambers. But all that is about to end. When Johnny invents a clean reactor that could eliminate fossil fuels and change the world, she awakens primal, evil Ancient Ones set on subjugating humanity. From the oldest library in the world to the ruins of Nineveh, hunted at every turn, they will need to trust each other completely to survive. "Gasp-out-loud astonishing" Charlie Jane Anders "A wonderful adventure" Chuck Wendig "A galloping global adventure" Brooke Bolander "A perfect balance of thriller, horror and humour" Adrian Tchaikovsky

A new trade paperback edition of "a masterpiece of symbolically charged realism..."Fowles is the only writer in English who has the power, range, knowledge, and wisdom of a Tolstoy or James" (John Gardner, *Saturday Review*). The eponymous hero of John Fowles's largest and richest novel is an English playwright turned Hollywood screenwriter who has begun to question his own values. Summoned home to England to visit an ailing friend, Daniel Martin finds himself back in the company of people who once knew him well, forced to confront his buried past, and propelled toward a journey of self-discovery through which he ultimately creates for himself a more satisfying existence. A brilliantly imagined novel infused with a profound understanding of human nature, Daniel Martin is John Fowles at the height of his literary powers.

*The Devil All the Time*

*Power, Creativity, Femininity*

*The French Lieutenant's Woman*

*The Collector*

*John Fowles*

Now a Netflix film starring Tom Holland and Robert Pattinson A dark and riveting vision of 1960s America that delivers literary excitement in the highest degree. In *The Devil All the Time*, Donald Ray Pollock has written a novel that marries the twisted intensity of Oliver Stone's *Natural Born Killers* with the religious and Gothic overtones of Flannery O'Connor at her most haunting. Set in rural southern Ohio and West Virginia, *The Devil All the Time* follows a cast of compelling and bizarre characters from the end of World War II to the 1960s. There's Willard Russell, tormented veteran of the carnage in the South Pacific, who can't save his beautiful wife, Charlotte, from an agonizing death by cancer no matter how much sacrificial blood he pours on his 'prayer log.' There's Carl and Sandra Henderson, a husband-and-wife team of serial killers, who troll America's highways searching for suitable models to photograph and exterminate. There's the spider-handling preacher Roy and his crippled virtuoso-guitar-playing sidekick, Theodore, running from the law. And caught in the middle of all this is Arvin Eugene Russell, Willard and Charlotte's orphaned son, who grows up to be a good but also violent man in his own right. Donald Ray Pollock braids his plotlines into a taut narrative that will leave readers astonished and deeply moved. With his first novel, he proves himself a master storyteller in the grittiest and most uncompromising American grain.

Two years after *The Collector* had brought him international recognition and a year before he published *The Magus*, John Fowles set out his ideas on life in *The Aristos*. The chief inspiration behind them was the fifth century BC philosopher Heraclitus. In the world he posited of constant and chaotic flux the supreme good was the Aristos, 'of a person or thing, the best or most excellent its kind.'

I was really trying to define was an ideal of human freedom (the Aristos) in an unfree world," wrote Fowles in 1965. He called a materialistic and over-conforming culture to reckoning with his views on a myriad of subjects - pleasure and pain, beauty and ugliness, Christianity, humanism, existentialism, socialism

A century ago, a gentle blind girl walked the cliffs of Paradise Point. Then the children came -- taunting, teasing -- until she lost her footing and fell, shrieking her rage to the drowning sea.. Now Michelle has come from Boston to live in the big house on Paradise Point. She is excited about her new life, ready to make new friends...until a hand reaches out of the swirling mists -- the hand of blind love. She is asking for friendship... seeking revenge... whispering her name...

From the pen of a master — the #1 bestselling, Booker Prize-winning author of *Atonement* — comes an astonishing novel that captures the fine balance of happiness and the unforeseen threats that can destroy it. A brilliant, thrilling page-turner that will keep readers on the edge of their seats. *Saturday* is a masterful novel set within a single day in February 2003. Henry Perowne is a contented successful neurosurgeon, happily married to a newspaper lawyer, and enjoying good relations with his children. Henry wakes to the comfort of his large home in central London on this, his day off. He is as at ease here as he is in the operating room. Outside the hospital, the world is not so easy or predictable. There is an impending war against Iraq, and a general darkening and gathering pessimism since the New York and Washington attacks two years before. On this particular Saturday morning, Perowne's day moves through the ordinary to the extraordinary. After an unusual sighting in the early morning sky, he makes his way to his regular squash game with his anesthetist. Trying to avoid the hundreds of thousands of marchers filling the streets of London, protesting against the war, a minor accident in his car brings him into a confrontation with a small-time thug. To Perowne's professional eye, something appears to be profoundly wrong with this young man, who in turn believes the surgeon has humiliated him — with savage consequences that will lead Henry Perowne to deploy all his skills to keep his family alive. *The Little Stranger*

A spooky doll story filled with thrills and chills, for fans of Mary Downing Hahn and Neil Gaiman. Josie always liked visiting her grandmother's house. But when she's forced to move there, she starts to feel like something is a little . . . off. Her grandmother has some very strange rules:Never leave your windows open after dark.No dolls in the house.Never, ever go by the house in the woods.A little spooked, Josie is relieved to find that her school seems pretty normal. She even manages to make friends with a popular girl named Vanessa. When Vanessa invites Josie back to her house to hang out, Josie doesn't question it. Not even when Vanessa takes her into the woods, and down an old dirt road, toward the very house her grandmother had warned her about . . .The house that has been calling for her.